



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AN: DB10316-0434

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PAGE 01 KABUL 01022 01 OF 04 071500Z  
SECTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-15 OIC-02  
CIAE-00 EA-10 DOME-00 H-01 IO-15 NSCE-00 NSAE-00  
CONE-00 SSO-00 SY-05 HA-06 LAB-04 DOE-10 PH-09  
PA-01 OCT-02 CCO-00 SSN-03 SIL-01 INRE-00 SMS-01  
ANAE-00 ACDA-12 SSN-02 USSS-00 SYE-00 SP-02 OC-06  
DOEE-00 SPRS-02 /150 W

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O 071357Z JUL 81

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECRETARY WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9105  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
AMEMBASSY BOMH  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAHADD IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USICA WASHDC  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
CINCSOUTH HEIDELBERG GE  
CINCSOUTH RANSTEIN AB GE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DATE

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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 4 KABUL 1022

CONFIDENTIAL  
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PAGE 02 KABUL 01022 01 OF 04 071500Z  
NEW DELHI FOR ADS, MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS

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12065: GDS 9/7/87 (HILLS, HAWTHORNE).OR-M  
12065: ASEC, MOPS, POIP, PEPR, PINS, PINT, SHUM, AF, UR  
SUBJECT: (U) SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN, JUNE 30-JULY 7

REF: KABUL 0907 Not relevant

1. (CONTINUE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY: THE DRA IS USING THE MUSLIM MONTH OF  
MULHARAN IN ITS CONTINUING CAMPAIGN TO TRY TO CONVINCE  
MUSLIMS THAT IT IS AN ISLAMIC GOVERNMENT AND THE PRO-  
TECTOR OF THE FAITH AGAINST COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY  
ATHEISTS. THE MEDIA ARE EVEN FULLER THAN USUAL OF ARTI-  
CLES AND EDITORIALS ABOUT DRA PIETY AND ASSISTANCE TO  
RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS, AND THE CURFEW WAS SHORTENED  
BY TWO HOURS SO BELIEVERS COULD GO TO THE MOSQUES TO  
PRAY AND STILL HAVE TIME TO VISIT THEIR FRIENDS AND EAT  
BEFORE HAVING TO BE OFF THE STREETS. EFFORTS ARE BEING  
MADE BY THE DRA CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL TO FORCE KABUL  
INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES TO REPLACE EMPLOYEES WHO ARE IN-  
SUFFICIENTLY LOYAL TO THE REGIME AND SEND THE TROUBLE-  
MAKERS TO OTHER FACTORIES IN THE PROVINCES. CONTRARY  
TO WHAT WE HAVE BEEN HEARING, IT APPEARS THAT ALGERIA  
WILL NOT SEND AN AMBASSADOR TO KABUL "AS LONG AS THERE  
IS A SINGLE FOREIGN SOLDIER ON AFGHAN SOIL." THERE WAS  
CONSIDERABLE FIGHTING IN AND AROUND KABUL THROUGHOUT  
THE WEEK, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREAS BEYOND KARGA DAM  
AND NORTH OF KHAIK KHANA PASS. THE LOCALLY FAMOUS  
SPOZHRAI RESTAURANT OVERLOOKING KARGA LAKE WAS BURNED  
BY MUJAHEDDIN WHO CLAIMED IT HAD BEEN POLLUTED BY  
PARTY OFFICIALS AND SOVIETS BROUGHT WOMEN THERE

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PAGE 03 KABUL 01022 01 OF 04 071500Z

FOR IMMORAL PURPOSES. AFGHAN SOLDIERS FLEEING IN FRIGHT  
DURING A MUJAHEDDIN ATTACK IN THE BAGRAMI INDUSTRIAL  
SECTION EAST OF THE CAPITAL FORCED THEIR WAY AT GUN-  
POINT INTO THE HOECHST PHARMACEUTICAL PLANT (PROTECT); PURSUING  
MUJAHEDDIN FIRED AN RPG ROUND AT THE PLANT, DAMAGING A  
BUILDING BUT MISSING THE COVERING SOLDIERS. SEVERAL  
ASSASSINATIONS WERE REPORTED IN KABUL AGAIN THIS WEEK,  
AND A LARGE GROUP OF SOVIET AMBULANCES WAS SEEN BRING-  
ING WOUNDED TO THE SOVIET MILITARY HOSPITAL ACROSS FROM  
THE RESIDENCE. THE BAGRAMI AREA CONTINUES TO BE THE

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SCENE OF HEAVY FIGHTING, ALTHOUGH THE TOWN ITSELF HAS NOT BEEN BOMBED AS REPORTED LAST WEEK. AMERICANS HAVE BEEN WARNED NOT TO TRAVEL ON THE PAGHMAN ROAD BEYOND THE KARGA DAN. MANY REPORTS OF FIGHTING THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WERE RECEIVED BUT THE MOST DETAILED ONES CONCERNED KABUL AND PARWAN PROVINCES NORTH OF THE CAPITAL. WE ALSO HAD EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS OF A MUJAHEDDIN ROADBLOCK ON THE MAIN HIGHWAY TO THE USSR SOUTH OF POLI KUMRI AND OF A PROBABLY FIRE AT THE POLI KUMRI FUEL STORAGE DEPOT. END SUMMARY.

POLITICAL/DIPLOMATIC

3. THE ISLAMIC HOLIDAY OF RAMADAN WHICH BEGAN THIS YEAR ON JULY 2 HAS GIVEN THE DRA NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO PROCLAIM ITSELF THE CHAMPION AND PROTECTOR OF THE MUSLIM FAITH AGAINST ITS COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ENEMIES. AS IT DID DURING RAMADAN LAST YEAR, THE REGIME SHORTENED THE CURFEW FOR THE REST OF THE MONTH BY TWO HOURS (IT IS NOW FROM MIDNIGHT TO 3:00 A.M.) SO THAT THE POPULATION CAN PARTICIPATE IN EVENING AND MORNING PRAYERS AT THE MOSQUES AND STILL HAVE TIME TO EAT THEIR MEALS DURING HOURS OF DARKNESS. TO HONOR THE HOLY MONTH, MEMBERS OF THE AFGHAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION AND PIONEERS WHO HAD COME TO KABUL FOR THE SECOND PLENUM OF THE YOUTH ORGANIZATION CENTRAL COMMITTEE "VOLUNTARILY" SPENT A DAY CLEANING UP THE CITY'S  
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PAGE 04 KABUL 01022 01 OF 04 071500Z

MOSQUES, JESHIN GROUNDS AND CEMETARIES.

4. ON JUNE 30 THE PRESIDENT OF THE AFGHAN TRADE UNION COUNCIL, ABDUL SATAR PURDELI, CONVOYED A MEETING OF ALL THE MANAGERS AND DIRECTORS OF KABUL'S LEADING INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES AND DIRECTED THEM TO TIGHTEN POLITICAL CONTROL OVER THEIR EMPLOYEES. HE GAVE THEM WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS TO CATEGORIZE ALL WORKERS AND SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL ACCORDING TO THEIR POLITICAL ATTITUDES AND SUBMIT ANNOTAGED ROSTERS TO HIM FOR ACTION. OPENLY ANTI-GOVERNMENT WORKERS AND EVEN THOSE WHO ARE LUKEWARM TOWARDS THE REGIME ARE TO

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PAGE 01 KABUL 01022 02 OF 04 071523Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO	OCT-01	ADS-00	AID-07	INR-10	EUR-12	SS-15	OIC-02
CIAE-00	EA-10	DODE-00	H-01	IO-15	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	
COHE-00	SSO-00	SY-05	HA-06	LAB-04	DOE-10	PM-09	
PA-01	OCT-02	CCO-00	SSH-03	SIL-01	INRE-00	SMS-01	
ANAE-00	ACOA-12	SSN-02	USSS-00	SYE-00	SP-02	OC-06	
DOEC-00	SPRS-02	/150 W					

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9106

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIJING

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACC

/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 520

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USICA WASHDC

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCEUR VAIHENGEN GE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

CINCUSAFE RANSTEIN AB GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 4 KABUL 1022

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02

KABUL 01022 02 OF 04 071523Z

NEW DELHI FOR ADS; MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS

BE REPLACED AND SENT TO SIMILAR JOBS IN THE PROVINCES.

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ACCORDING TO PURDELI, SO AS TO DISPERSE THE TROUBLEMAKERS AND BREAK UP RELATIONSHIPS WHICH MIGHT CONTAMINATE OTHER WORKERS. MANY EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL PERSONNEL, ARE ALSO TO BE SENT TO THE PROVINCES IF THEY ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY TRAINED AND REQUIRED FOR THE PARTICULAR JOBS THEY NOW HOLD. WHEN PURDELI SUGGESTED THAT THE DIRECTORS, MOST OF WHOM ARE POPA MEMBERS BY NECESSITY, CARRY WEAPONS AT ALL TIMES, THEY UNANIMOUSLY REFUSED ON THE GROUNDS THAT THIS WOULD PUT BARRIERS BETWEEN THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS. PURDELI ANGRILY ASKED WHY THEY HAD JOINED THE PARTY IF THEY WERE UNWILLING TO DEFEND IT, TO WHICH SEVERAL REPLIED THAT THEY HAD JOINED BECAUSE THE PARTY AT FIRST PROMISED HELP, COOPERATION AND STATUS FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR BUSINESSES BUT MEMBERSHIP NOW HAD BECOME A DANGER TO THEIR LIVES. (COMMENT: ONE OF OUR BEST SOURCES WAS TOLD ABOUT THIS MEETING AND CONTROL PROGRAM BY HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW WHO ATTENDED -- PROTECT, EVEN IF THE PROGRAM SUCCEEDS IN GETTING MANY ANTI-REGIME WORKERS OUT OF KABUL, AND WE DOUBT THAT IT WILL. THE SCHEME IS LIKELY TO BACKFIRE BY SPREADING DISSIDENCE EVEN MORE WIDELY TO PROVINCIAL FACTORIES. BRIEF.)

5

B/a 5  
B/a 3

THAT "ALGERIA WILL NOT OPEN AN EMBASSY IN KABUL AS LONG AS THERE IS A SINGLE FOREIGN SOLDIER ON AFGHAN SOIL." ASKED ABOUT SIMILAR RUMORS THAT THE SYRIANS WERE PREPARING TO OPEN AN EMBASSY HERE, HE THOUGHT SYRIA WOULD

B/a 3

CONFIDENTIAL  
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PAGE 03

KABUL 01022 02 OF 04 071523Z

TAKE THE SAME POSITION AS ALGERIA (THIS LATTER POINT CONFLICTS WITH INFORMATION REPORTED EARLIER THAT AGREEMENT HAD ALREADY BEEN REQUESTED FOR NEW SYRIAN AND AFGHAN AMBASSADORS IN THE RESPECTIVE CAPITALS).

6. WE CELEBRATED THE FOURTH OF JULY BY INVITING ALL AMERICAN RESIDENTS OF AFGHANISTAN TO LUNCH AT THE RESIDENCE. THERE ARE ONLY 28 HERE NOW, HALF THE NUMBER WE HAD IN 1900, AND ONLY A SMALL FRACTION OF THE 1400 U.S. CITIZENS WHO LIVED HERE THREE YEARS AGO.

SECURITY INCIDENTS IN KABUL

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7. SPORADIC ARTILLERY AND MACHINEGUN FIRE WAS HEARD EVERY NIGHT THIS WEEK IN SEVERAL PARTS OF KABUL AND IT ENVIRONS, BUT IT IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH OF IT WAS DURING ACTUAL CONTACTS BETWEEN MUJAHEDDIN AND SECURITY FORCES AND HOW MUCH WAS PREVENTIVE FIRE. CLEARLY IN THE LATTER CATEGORY WAS A SERIES OF MORTAR-LAUNCHED PARACHUTE FLARES WHICH AN ENBOFF SAW FIRED EVERY TEN MINUTES ON JULY 4 BEFORE MIDNIGHT IN THE AREA NORTHWEST OF THE EMBASSY BETWEEN THE AIRPORT AND THE SOVIET BASE AT CHAIR KHANA. BUT WE HAVE ALSO HAD REPORTS OF HEAVY ENGAGEMENTS IN THE RISHKOR AREA SEVERAL NIGHTS LAST WEEK, IN THE MICRO RAYON RESIDENTIAL AREA ON JULY 2, AND AT THE KARGA DAN WHERE THREE AFGHAN SOLDIERS WERE KILLED JULY 1. ON JUNE 29TH MUJAHEDDIN, APPARENTLY OF THE YUNIS KHALIS GROUP REPORTED TO BE CONCENTRATED IN THE PAGHMAN HILLS WEST OF KABUL, FIRED SIX RPG ROUNDS AT THE SPOZHNAT RESTAURANT AND HOTEL OVERLOOKING KARGA LAKE, AFTER WHICH THEY POURED GASOLINE ON RUGS AND FURNITURE AND BURNED OUT THE RESTAURANT. NOTES WERE LEFT SAYING THAT

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PAGE 01 KABUL 01022 03 OF 04 071537Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO	OCT-01	ADS-00	AID-07	INR-10	EUR-12	SS-15	OIC-02
CIAE-00	EA-10	DDDE-00	II-01	IO-15	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	
COHE-00	SSO-00	SY-05	HA-06	LAB-04	DOE-10	PM-09	
PA-01	OCT-02	CCO-00	SSH-03	SIL-01	INRE-00	SMS-01	
ANAE-00	ACDA-12	SSN-02	USSS-00	SYE-00	SP-02	OC-06	
DOEE-00	SPRS-02	/150 W					

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O 071357Z JUL 81

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9187

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIJING

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USICA WASHDC

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 4 KABUL 1022

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 :KABUL :01022: 03 OF 04 :071537Z

NEW DELHI FOR ADS: MILITARY ADDRESSES: ALSO FOR POLADS

THE MUJAHEDDIN WERE SORRY TO HAVE TO DESTROY ONE OF THE  
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LAST REMAINING PLACES WHERE KABUL RESIDENTS COULD GO FOR AN OUTING BUT THAT THEY HAD TO DO IT BECAUSE PARTY MEMBERS AND SOVIETS WERE CORRUPTING THE PLACE BY BRINGING LOOSE WOMEN THERE. AN EMOFF INSPECTED THE DAMAGED PREMISES A FEW DAYS LATER AND TALKED WITH THE MANAGER WHO SAID REPAIRS WOULD TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS AND COST MORE THAN \$15,000. (BRIEF.)

8. ACCORDING TO A HOECHST EMPLOYEE (PROTECT) ON JULY 1 HUJAHEDDIN ATTACKED THE POWER STATION BEYOND THE BAGRAMI INDUSTRIAL AREA NEAR THE HOECHST PLANT. DURING THE ATTACK AN AFGHAN APC WAS HIT AND STARTED TO BURN. WHEREUPON THE CREW JUMPED OUT AND FLED TO THE HOECHST COMPOUND, DEMANDED ENTRANCE AT GUNPOINT, AND HID BEHIND ONE OF THE BUILDINGS. HUJAHEDDIN WHO WERE CHASING THEM STOPPED OUTSIDE THE ENTRANCE BUT FIRED AN RPG ROUND AT THE BUILDING, CAUSING CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE BUT MISSING THE FRIGHTENED SOLDIERS.

9. A GOOD SOURCE HAS TOLD US THAT ON JUNE 26 AN AFGHAN CIVILIAN WALKED UP TO A SERGEANT ON GUARD AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE GHAZNI AND PAGHMAN HIGHWAYS AND CALMLY SHOT HIM TO DEATH. SOVIET AND AFGHAN SOLDIERS IN A NEARBY READY-ROOM SAW THE KILLING AND FIRED FROM THE WINDOW BUT THE ASSAILANT ESCAPED AND DISAPPEARED IN A NEARBY VILLAGE. PASSERSBY IN A BUS SAW A SIMILAR ASSASSINATION IN KHAIR KHANA JUNE 29TH WHEN AN ARMY OFFICER WAS KILLED IN FRONT OF HIS HOUSE AND HIS SON WOUNDED AT 7:30 IN THE MORNING, AFTER WHICH THE KILLER ESCAPED. ONE OF THOSE ON THE BUS WHO REPORTED THE INCIDENT TO US SAID THE OFFICER APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN A TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY FOR  
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PAGE 03 :KABUL 01022 03 OF 04 071537Z

THE ASSAILANT RATHER THAN A PLANNED TARGET. (BRIEF.)

10. ON SATURDAY ABOUT 12:30 AN EMOFF DRIVING BY THE SOVIET MILITARY HOSPITAL ACROSS FROM THE RESIDENCE SAW EIGHT AMBULANCES PULLED UP IN FRONT OF THE HOSPITAL PROTECTED BY TWO TRUCKLOADS OF TROOPS, OBVIOUSLY JUST IN FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE. SOVIET TROOPS HAD STARTED TO REMOVE STRETCHERS FROM THE AMBULANCES WHEN A GROUP OF VEHICLES, INCLUDING EMOFF'S APPROACHED ON THE STREET. THEY HURRIEDLY SHOVELED THE STRETCHERS BACK INTO THE AMBULANCES AND SHUT THE DOORS UNTIL THE CARS HAD PASSED, AFTER WHICH THEY CARRIED THE MANY WOUNDED

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SOLDIERS INTO THE HOSPITAL. (BRIEF, BUT PROTECT EMBASSY.)

11. AN AUSTRIAN DIPLOMAT TRAVELING ON THE PAGHMAN ROAD JULY 4 HAD SEVERAL SHOTS FIRED AT HIS JEEP, BUT LUCKILY THEY ALL MISSED. TWO DAYS EARLIER A UN OFFICIAL ON THE GOLF COURSE ACTUALLY SAW TWO MI-24 HELICOPTERS BOMB AND STRAFE WHAT PROBABLY WERE MUJAHEDDIN POSITIONS IN THE PAGHMAN FOOTHILLS ABOUT FIVE MILES AWAY. THE DRA HAS TOLD RESIDENTS OF PAGHMAN THAT IT INTENDS TO CLEAN OUT THE MUJAHEDDIN FROM THAT REGION AND THAT IF THE VILLAGERS STAYED THEY MIGHT GET HURT. IT OFFERED TO ASSIST THEM WITH TRANSPORTATION TO MOVE ELSEWHERE, ACCORDING TO A SOURCE WHO LIVES IN THE AREA (PROTECT). BECAUSE OF CONTINUING COMBAT ACTIVITY IN THAT AREA, EMBASSY PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN TOLD NOT TO GO BEYOND THE KARGA DAM AND TO RESTRICT THEIR GOLFING AND PICKNICKING ACTIVITIES TO THE WEEKENDS WHEN THERE ARE PLENTY OF WESTERNERS

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PAGE 01 KABUL 01022 04 OF 04 071549Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO	OCT-01	ADS-00	AID-07	INR-10	EUR-12	SS-15	OIC-02
CIAE-00	EA-10	DODE-00	H-01	IO-15	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	
COMB-00	SSO-00	SY-05	HA-06	LAB-04	DOE-10	PM-09	
PA-01	OCT-02	CCO-00	SSH-03	SIL-01	INRE-00	SMS-01	
ANAE-00	ACDA-12	SSN-02	USSS-00	SYE-00	SP-02	OC-06	
DOEE-00	SPRS-02	/150 4					

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0 071357Z JUL 01

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9188  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
AMEMBASSY BOMBI  
/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 320  
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
AMEMBASSY Dacca  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USICA WASHDC  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
CINCEUR VAHNGEN GE  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
CINCSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE  
CINCSAFE RAHSTEIN AB GE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 4 OF 4 KABUL 1022

CONFIDENTIAL  
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PAGE 02 KABUL 01022 04 OF 04 071549Z

NEW DELHI FOR ADD: MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS  
AROUND.

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12. INFORMATION WE RECEIVED THIS WEEK INDICATES THAT THE HEAVY DAMAGE WE REPORTED IN REFTEL TO "PAGHMAN" WAS ACTUALLY TO A VILLAGE IN PAGHMAN DISTRICT CALLED BEG TOOT, ABOUT EIGHT KILOMETERS AWAY. TANKS AND HELICOPTERS ATTACKED AND DESTROYED SELECTED BUILDINGS IN THE VILLAGE, APPARENTLY GUIDED BY INFORMERS WHO POINTED OUT WHERE SUSPECTED MUJAHEDDIN LIVED OR WERE GIVEN SHELTER. THE MAIN PART OF PAGHMAN TOWN WAS NOT DAMAGED. (MAKE CORRECTION IF THIS WAS BRIEFED LAST WEEK.)

IN THE PROVINCES

13. HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUES IN KABUL AND PARWY PROVINCES NORTH OF THE CAPITAL, AND MUCH OF THAT COUNTRYSIDE IS UNDER THE CONTROL OF MUJAHEDDIN.

THE TOWN OF GULBAHAR WAS CAPTURED FROM THE GOVERNMENT LAST WEEK AND AS OF JULY 5 WAS STILL IN MUJAHEDDIN HANDS. THE BAZAAR AREA WAS COMPLETELY DEMOLISHED IN THE FIGHTING AND MANY PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND WOUNDED. FARTHER NORTH, CHARIKAR, THE CAPITAL OF PARWAN PROVINCE, STILL HAS A GOVERNMENT PRESENCE DURING THE DAYTIME BUT IS COMPLETELY TAKEN OVER BY MUJAHEDDIN EVERY AFTERNOON, ACCORDING TO THE SAME SOURCE. (BRIEF.)

14. THE COUSIN OF AN EHDAFUY EMPLOYEE (PROTECT), A YOUNG SOLDIER IN A TANK UNIT OPERATING NEAR BAGRAM AIRFIELD, WAS KILLED JULY 4 IN AN UNSUCCESSFUL SOVIET/DRA ATTEMPT TO DESTROY A MUJAHEDDIN STRONGHOLD. HE WAS  
CONFIDENTIAL  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03

KABUL 01022 04 OF 04 071549Z

BURNED TO DEATH WHEN HIS TANK WAS HIT BY RPG FIRE, AS WERE 13 OTHER ARMORED VEHICLES. (BRIEF.)

15. A TRUCK CARRYING A CONSIGNMENT OF GOODS FOR THE FRENCH EMBASSY COMMISSARY WAS STOPPED BY MUJAHEDDIN ON THE MAIN HIGHWAY SOUTH OF POLI KUMRI LAST WEEK. AFTER EXAMING THE PAPERS AND DETERMINING THAT THE CARGO WAS FOR A WESTERN EMBASSY, THE INSURGENTS LEVIED A HODEST ROAD TAX OF 1800 AFGHANIS (\$38) AND ALLOWED THE TRUCK TO PROCEED. THEY SAID THEY WOULD HAVE DESTROYED THE CARGO AND THE TRUCK IF THE GOODS HAD BEEN DESTINED FOR A COMMUNIST EMBASSY OR THE DRA. (BRIEF.)

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16. F

ON JULY 4, NOTICED AN ENORMOUS CLOUD OF BLACK SMOKE RISING TO AT LEAST 20,000 FEET ABOVE THE FUEL STORAGE DEPOT AT POLI KUMRI. HE THOUGHT THAT AT LEAST SOME OF THE TANKS WERE ON FIRE, ALTHOUGH BECAUSE OF THE DENSE SMOKE IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO BE SURE. MILLS

345

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